

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested. Claims 1, 5, 9, 13, 17, and 24 have been amended. No claim has been canceled in this response (claims 14, 15 and 29 were previously canceled). Claims 30-32 have been newly added. No new matter has been added. **Applicants hereby respectfully request a telephone interview with the Examiner to be held before the Examiner's issuance of an office action in response to this RCE.**

Double Patenting

Claims 1-29 stand provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-28 of copending Application No. 10/798,987, claims 1-30 of copending Application No. 10/799,861 and claims 1-38 of copending Application No. 10/800,163. With respect to the provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejections, Applicants submit herewith a terminal disclaimer, relative to U.S. Patent Applications No. 10/798,987, 10/799,861 and 10/800,163 without admitting to the propriety of the provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejections. Hence, Applicants submit that all double patenting rejections have been overcome.

Claim Rejections

Independent claims 1, 9, 17 and 24 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) based on Kao (US Pat. No. 5,313,631) in view of Kita (US Pat. No. 6,430,611). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

Claim 1, as currently amended, recites:

1. A method for collecting information from a storage server managed by use of a multi-appliance management application (MMA), the method comprising:
using an agent to scan the storage server and to collect information regarding files stored by the storage server, wherein the agent is a separate device from the storage server and the MMA;

summarizing the information and creating a summary by using the agent; and storing the summary on a database server.
(Emphasis added)

In contrast, Kao and Kita, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest the above emphasized limitation. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgement that Kao does not teach or suggest an agent that is a separate device from the storage server (see final office action mailed on 4/4/2007, page 3). The Examiner, however, alleges that Kita teach or suggest such an agent that is a separate device from the storage server. However, as disclosed in the discussion of Kita's Figure 3 (specifically, column 4, lines 34-37 and column 4, line 66 - column 5, line 1), the scanning agent is installed in the computer whose storage resources (e.g., disks, etc.) are to be scanned by the installed agent. Thus, assuming *arguendo* the computer, whose storage resources are to be scanned, may be considered a storage server, the scanning agent is installed within the storage server, instead of being a separate device from the storage server. In addition, as disclosed in column 10, lines 8-15, if a computer does not have a scanning agent installed, the SRM server (which monitors the computer) scans the computer, instead of using an agent separate from both the SRM server and the computer.

Thus, at least for the foregoing reasons, Kao and Kita, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest each and every limitations of claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 and all claims which depend on it are patentable over Kao and Kita.

Independent claims 9, 17, 24, and newly added claim 30 each recites limitation similar to that discussed above for claim 1. For similar reasons, claims 9, 17, 24, 30 and all claims which depend on them are also patentable over Kao and Kita.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly requested.

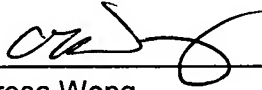
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02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

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Teresa Wong
Reg. No. 48,042

Customer No. 48102
1279 Oakmead Parkway
Sunnyvale, CA 94085-4040
(408) 720-8300